

United States Department of Justice United States Attorney's Office District of Minnesota

Rachel K. Paulose, United States Attorney

David Anderson, Public Affairs Specialist (612) 664-5684; cell: (612) 730-2251

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2007

St. Paul man indicted for drug trafficking

MINNEAPOLIS—A 38-year-old St. Paul man was indicted Oct. 10 on federal charges of drug trafficking and possession of both methamphetamine and firearms.

Michael Scott Wahlstrom was charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine; two counts of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine; one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime; two counts of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon; and one count of possession of ammunition by a convicted felon.

According to the indictment, Wahlstrom, also known as the "G-Man," conspired with others to possess with intent to distribute 500 or more grams of methamphetamine between May 2006 and March 2007. Methamphetamine is a highly addictive and dangerous drug.

According to court documents, Wahlstrom was arrested on June 9, 2006, in Lino Lakes, and was found in possession of 30 or more grams of methamphetamine and a .22-Magnum revolver. A Jan. 3, 2007, search of Wahlstrom's St. Paul residence yielded 50 or more grams of methamphetamine, and a search of his home in West St. Paul yielded an assault rifle, a semi-automatic handgun and multiple rounds of ammunition.

If convicted, Wahlstrom faces a potential maximum penalty of life in prison on the conspiracy charge; 20 years for one count of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine charge and life in prison on the second distribution charge; life in prison for the possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime charge; 10 years for each charge of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon; and 10 years for the ammunition possession charge.

All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and Explosives, the Lino Lakes Police Department, the Anoka-Hennepin Drug Task Force, the St. Paul Police Department and the West St. Paul Police Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Andrew R. Winter.

An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by the defendant. The defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.